



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/988,685	11/20/2001	Yoshimi Shioya		9020

7590 04/01/2005
LORUSSO & LOUD
3137 Mount Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22305

EXAMINER

HOGANS, DAVID L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2813

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

09/988,685

APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
---------------------------------	-------------	---	---------------------

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
----------	-------

03232005

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

A copy of an examiner's amendment to correct claim dependencies is attached.

Also attached is an initialed copy of the IDS received from the applicant on 30 July 2003, which has been considered.

Stephen W. Smoot
Stephen W. Smoot
Examiner /AU 2813

This Office action is a follow-up to an examiner's amendment mailed to applicant on 05 November 2004. In that Office action, claim 32 was cancelled and its limitation was incorporated into independent claim 29. However, several of the allowed dependent claims depend directly on the canceled claim 32 and their claim dependencies have been changed to depend directly on claim 29 as indicated below.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

In claim 33, line 2, change the claim dependency from "claim 32" to --claim 29--;

In claim 34, line 2, change the claim dependency from "claim 32" to --claim 29--;

and

In claim 36, line 2, change the claim dependency from "claim 32" to --claim 29--.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen W. Smoot whose telephone number is 571-272-1698. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 am to 4:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-1702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SWS